GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2645
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2002
DIGITAL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
A. VENKATESH NAIK

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages lined with digital distribution system;

(b) the names of the companies who have come forward to lay digital distribution system to connect cities, towns and villages;

(c) the States where these facilities are proposed to be provided;

(d) whether it is a fact that the private companies are not interested to provide services in the rural areas; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SIKDAR)

(a) No village has been lined with digital distribution system. However, as reported by private basic service operators, 792 villages in 4 states have been provided with digital technology Village Public Telephones.

(b) & (c): Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) & (e): The private Basic Telephone Service providers who have been granted licence as per the Guidelines dated 25.1.2001 are required to set up Points of Presence in urban, semi-urban and rural Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs), typically Tehsils, in equal proportion as a part of their roll out obligations.